

Baseball Followers Wondering Whether Nationals Are Left in the Lurch

Jones-Pickering Deal Sets Fans Wondering What Washington Got

Hard to See Where Cantillon Profited by Trade. Anderson Wins in Fight for Transfer. What Leagues Are Doing.

By THOMAS S. RICE.

Joe Cantillon has traded Charley Jones, the crack center fielder of the Washington team, for Ollie Pickering, the St. Louis American outfielder, and has sold John Anderson to Charley Comiskey, of the Chicago White Sox. What do the Washington fans gain by this deal? That question has been asked all the morning, and the answer is hard to give.

Jones is probably the best fielding center fielder in either big league. He is the equal in baseball brains of any man on the Washington team, and is one of the speediest men in the business. His batting has been uncertain. For some cause, he never developed the proper method of attack at bat until the middle of last season, when his batting average suddenly rose from about .240 to over .300. It was a sport almost unique in the history of baseball, and while it lasted Jones was as valuable as any outfielder in the business.

Jones Should Improve. Almost as suddenly as it started Jones' slugging streak came to an end, and he fell hard. Why this should happen is impossible to say, unless Jones acquired bad habits. He explained his improvement with the stick by saying he had learned to grasp it shorter, so that he swung it around in time to chop at fast shots, and it was noticeable that his batting style changed.

Next year, with the trick he picked up last season, Jones should have a higher batting average than he has ever had before, and there were no indications that he lost his speed or craftiness, therefore Cantillon seems to have gotten rid of a man who has just struck his stride in fast company for one who has been in the game a long time, is a fairly good hitter, but is by no means the fielding star Jones was.

Jones held out for more salary at the beginning of last season, and was late in reporting at Galveston. He has talked much about retiring from baseball and going into business as a paper-hanger, which is his trade, in Denver. Recently it was announced he had formed a business partnership and had quit the game. It is barely possible Cantillon had some definite information about what Jones was going to do in the way of leaving the diamond, and traded a goldbrick to St. Louis, which would make much laughings in this neck of the woods.

Anderson Wins Out. Cantillon has come off his perch in the Anderson matter. When the Scandinavian jumped the Washington club last summer, Cantillon was excessively fretted, and declared Anderson would never be sold or traded, as it would be subversive of all discipline to allow a disgruntled player to quit and then gain his point by being transferred to another city. That seemed a proper and reasonable view, and there will be some surprise over the Washington club and the American League letting Big John get away with his little grouch.

Comiskey is after men who can hit the ball. He has the brainiest fastest, and best ball team in the American League—apart from hitting. In sluggers

he is sadly shy, and has done everything possible to obtain men who could hit the ball on the nose with a man on third and one out. Charley Hickman was obtained from Washington for that purpose, and the purchase of Anderson is evidently for that sole purpose, as, aside from his ability to drive a ball far and to steal bases in his own fashion, Anderson is about as far from Comiskey's ideal of a ball player as could be imagined. He is a slow thinker, is not at all clubby, and takes comparatively little interest in the success of his team.

Detroit has already started to strengthen its catching department and bought Ira Thomas yesterday from New York. Let us hope Thomas makes good with the Tigers. It is a pity to see a ball team which can make such a splendid fight in every other department fairly handicapped in one.

Jimmy McAleer bought A. G. Brown, first baseman, from Detroit for the St. Louis Americans. McAleer is making practically a new team in St. Louis, and its career will be watched with interest. He traded Niles, Hemphill, and Glade to New York for Jimmy Williams, Hobe Ferris, and Hofman; now he has traded Pickering to Washington for Charley Jones, and has bought Brown from Detroit. He is also trying to trade off Tom Jones, his first baseman of last season, and will probably succeed before the robin nest again. This will give St. Louis new men at first, second, right field and center field, and possibly short or third, which is going some for winter juggling.

Last season McAleer had a good team on paper and on the field, but it was constantly running into hard luck and throwing away games that should have been won. It was much like the teams Washington has had for several years. One man would make a rank error and then the entire organization would go to pieces. McAleer complained of the actions of some of his men when under fire and seems to have thought it best to clean out the whole business and start with a fresh deal.

President Tom Noyes, of the Washington baseball club, was left off the rules committee yesterday at the meeting of the American League. Comiskey takes his place. On the surface, this hardly appears a very significant move. There are a number of very important rules to be considered in the joint meeting with the National League committee, and among them are the lowering of the pitcher's box, the National League suggestion for a base on balls on three strikes instead of four, the playing of shortened games, the delaying of games, etc., and severely practical and experienced baseball men are needed to discuss and decide such weighty problems. Mr. Noyes is not a practical baseball man of the Connie Mack, Charley Comiskey, and Clarke Griffith type, the men who now compose the American League rules committee, and never professed to be.

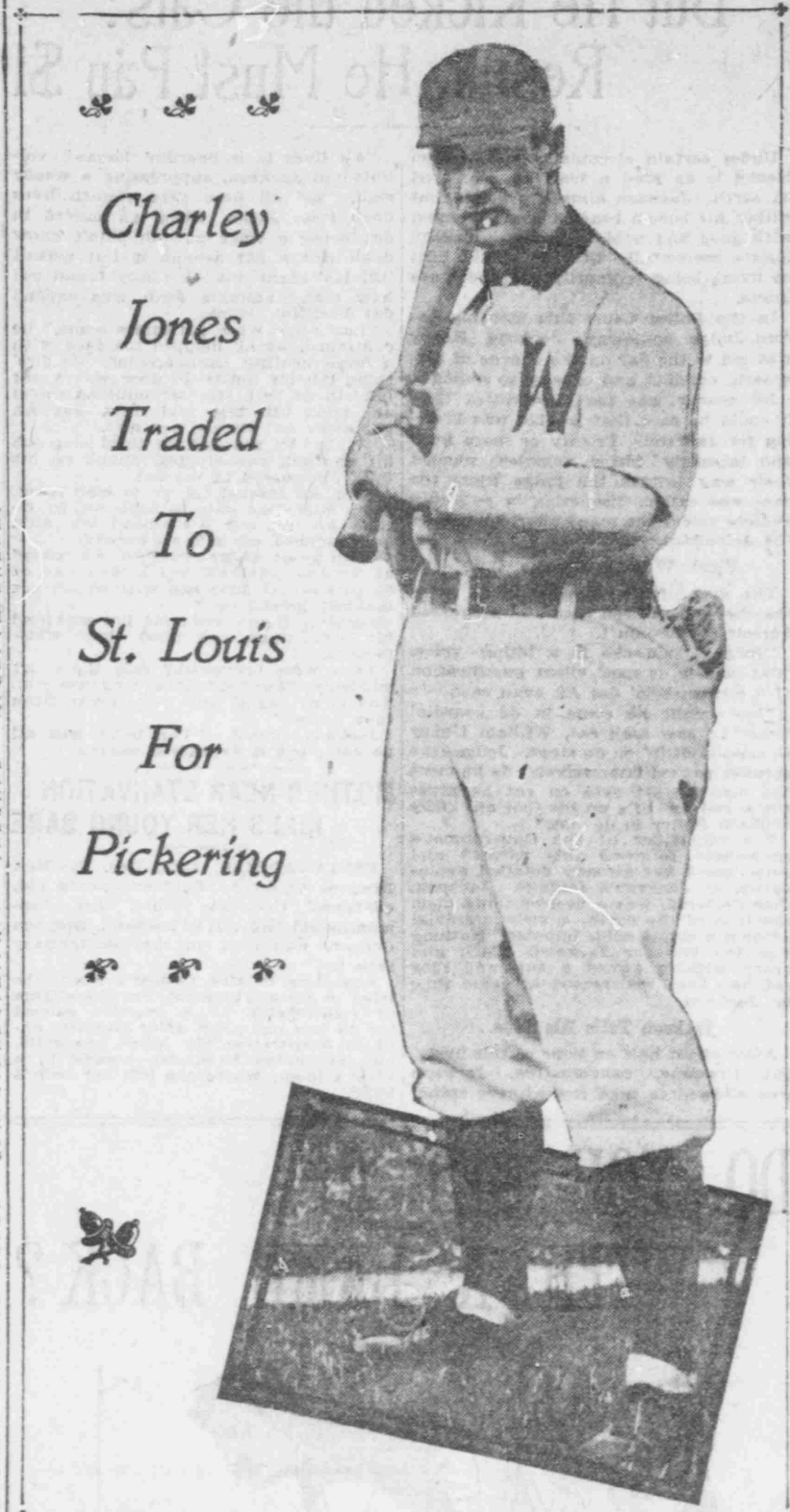
The failure to elect Mr. Noyes to the board of directors is another matter and it will be impossible to get any explanation of that until he returns to the city. The directing clubs next year are Chicago, Cleveland, New York, and Boston. President Taylor, of the last named, being elected for the second consecutive time.

The American League magnates came out of their trance yesterday and decided to wait a while before adopting the change of from seven to nine games for the world's series, as proposed by the National League. This was a radical move which deserved much more serious consideration than it received. It is a very open problem whether the nine games would be a better number.

Asking waivers or refusing them will be an expensive amusement next season in the American League. If a club

Charley Jones Traded To St. Louis For Pickering

By THOMAS S. RICE.



SOCCER INTRODUCED AT TOME INSTITUTE

Tome has introduced soccer and will arrange contests with schools in Philadelphia and Baltimore.

First practice began on the quadrangle this week, with twenty-five contestants. Some of the football men are interested in the game, and the eleven who will know the game, since Mr. Musgrave, one of the members of the faculty, who has played in England for years, has offered to coach it. Among the boys who have reported are Grip, Mason, and the regular football eleven: Gilbert, Perry, McCord, Carter, Williams, Barr, Heg, Sexton, Quintard, Johns, quarterback on the eleven, is expected to come out; also Nisbet, and other cricket stars.

Tome's quadrangle is an ideal place to play the game, and the interest already shown insures a good team. The school is looking forward with considerable eagerness to the first championship game.

KETCHELL WINNER FROM JOE THOMAS

Gets Decision on Aggressiveness in Twenty Rounds.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Dec. 12.—Stanley Ketchell, really demonstrated last night that he was Joe Thomas' master at the fighting game. The match between the pair at the baseball grounds went the full twenty rounds. When the "cease fighting" sounded, Referee Sam Berger pulled the struggling middleweights apart and held Ketchell's saggy right glove aloft, the official intimation that the lad from Montana had won. His margin of credits was so extensive there wasn't a chance for argument in respect to the reward.

Fighter Beats Boxer. Through the whole fight one fact was patent, namely, that it was fighter against boxer. Ketchell was aggressiveness personified. Thomas, while he spouted occasionally, used his cleverness as a foil to the other man's wholeness. If it had not been for the way Ketchell carried the battle to his opponent, the contest would have been far less interesting. As it was, voted one of the most thrilling encounters it has been the privilege of local patrons of the ring sport to witness. Ketchell obtained a lead after the first round started. Thomas was bleeding from the nose in the second round and he seemed to lack confidence.

What They Say. Young Ketchell said after the fight: "I was confident all through the fight that I was going to win. Thomas was clever, but his blows did not have force enough to hurt me and at no time was I in any distress. I think I proved, conclusively last night that I am a superior, and I will now look for some one else to fight." Thomas made an unusually clean-cut and manly statement, as follows: "I figured that I was going to win. Ketchell all through the fight, but I have no kick coming at Referee Berger's decision. Ketchell is a very strong young fellow and his blows contain a great deal of punishing power. I did the best I could, and if the referee thinks that Ketchell had the better of the fight I am satisfied."

Referee Sam Berger explained his decision: "It was Ketchell's great animal strength that won the fight for him. Thomas fought a game and a clever fight, but there were times during the battle that he was weak and his cleverness and clean hitting were more than offset by the force of Ketchell's punch. Both boys broke quickly when I told them, and take it all through, it was a nice fight to referee."

About Ketchell's Style. Ketchell, when thoroughly loosened up, swings in a businesslike way. In the matter of punishing force, he seems to be very strong. He makes away at the stomach with the left in a tentative way, but it is only to bring his man's head forward. When the head comes within range he lets go with a left or right, or perhaps each in turn, and there is a knockout in any of the blows. "It happened to me last night. If the man does not respond readily to the left at the body he tries it with his right. When repeated hammering of his opponent causes both arms to sag, then Stanley redoubles his efforts to reach the side of the head with a left or a right."

This has been his program in his two former fights with Joe Thomas, and it was the same last night. He put Thomas to the floor with a left swing in the very first round, and had him down again in the fifth.

Thomas Trained Too Fine. The contest showed that Ketchell is the more rugged man of the pair, at any rate at the weight that prevailed last night. If Thomas continues in the business it might not be a bad thing for him to preclaim himself a lightweight and take a chance with

GALLAUDET NAMES FOOTBALL LEADERS

Hower, Captain; Davis, Manager—New Eligibility Code.

John T. Hower, of Kansas, has been elected captain for the Gallaudet College football team for the season of 1908, and his election ratified by the College Athletic Association.

Robert L. Davis, assistant manager during the past season, is the new manager for next year.

Hower has played left end on the Kendall Green team for two years, and has been one of its mainstays, especially during the season just closed. He has been the main reliance in receiving the forward pass, and is a consistent punter around end. Sharp, the star fullback, who was captain the latter part of the season, ran Hower a close race in this election.

Kutzb's Great Record. Largely through the good work of the Student-Coach O'Donnell, the season just closed was an improvement over that of the preceding one, and the only certain loss to next season's eleven will be the graduation of Kutzb, the fast left halfback, who has played the position for four years without once being taken out of a game, and of Underhill, a good tackle.

At a meeting of the faculty last night the eligibility code was further enforced by the adoption of a rule requiring a student may take part in any kind of athletic contest with outsiders. While this new rule is expected to affect very few of the present athletes, it will be a greater barrier to hand to Gallaudet, which has by far the smallest student body of any college in its class. The rule is expected to prove to colleges with larger enrollments and consequently more material.

Football enthusiasts will probably renew the effort made last year to put a quint in the field, but success is altogether unlikely, as the college authorities are opposed to the regular maintenance of any branch of athletics in competition with outsiders between the football and baseball seasons.

men like Jack (Twin) Sullivan. Aside

from Tom McCarthy won from A. McDonald in six rounds, and in the second round, Willie Johnson fouled Willie Pertall and was disqualified in the fifth round.

The seatholders were game, however, and kept their seats, even though the "turnout" was small, and many electric wires were dangling in all directions. The damages were repaired before Ketchell and Thomas entered the ring. There the wind dropped and the rain came down in buckets, finding its way through the canvas roof, and drenching many of the spectators.

G. W. U. ATHLETIC COUNCIL MEETS

At a meeting of the George Washington Athletic Council held last evening it was decided to elect a football manager for the '08 season early in January.

The board transacted some routine business and several changes in the athletic system were proposed which will not be given out until they are laid before the student body. Another meeting will be held next Monday evening.

Those present last evening were Graduate Manager of Athletics E. C. Wilson, Managers Ball, Biddle, and Fleming, Captains Gunning, Sommers, and Gill; alumni member, I. T. Bright, and faculty adviser, Dr. W. F. R. Phillips.

Y. M. C. A. RESERVES VS. SHAMROCK TEAM Tomorrow evening at 8:30 o'clock in the Young Men's Christian Association gymnasium, the Reserve team, of the association, will line up against the Shamrock team, of Class B, of the Washington City League, in what promises to be a fast game.

The Association has won one game by two points, and as both teams are desirous of winning by a larger margin they will get busy from the first foot of the whistle.

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